

and the rule of law, a voice for the voiceless, victims of human rights abuses, and he was a lion of the right to life. In every sense, life has lost its lion, and this movement will miss his roar.

Henry once quoted me on this floor from his favorite poet Tennyson from the poem "Ulysses." He said, by memory, "Though we are not now that strength which in old days moved heaven and earth, that which we are, we are, one equal temper of heroic hearts made weak by time and fate, but strong in will to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

On all the great issues of the day, Henry Hyde strove, he sought, he found, he did not yield. May he rest in peace, and those of us who share his values and his principles not rest until the work he began is done.

□ 1030

THE PRESIDENT AND COMPASSIONATE CONSERVATISM

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, on Monday evening, the President hosted a holiday party for Members of Congress and others. A good time was had by all. It was a wonderful time and the President was a marvelous host, but I had to think in that moment about the holiday spirit and the idea of giving and caring for people who need something and providing for them.

I asked the President at that time to use some of his compassionate conservatism to help us get through this budget. There are people that need help with their heating bills this winter. There are people that need policemen and protection for their neighborhoods. There are people who have problems with illnesses in their families, whether it be cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes or heart disease, which research dollars could help them with. There are people that need help with Head Start and education in this country and children that need health care.

Madam Speaker, I think in this Christmas season we ought to think about why we're here, who we should be helping and what we ought to be doing. Part of it is helping others and people who need a little bit more. The President was elected on an idea of compassionate conservatism. It's time to be compassionate. Part of that is being compassionate to take care of people here in America.

Bring it home, Mr. President.

IRAQ

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, back in January, a number of Members

of the House voted against a surge in Iraq which the President had promoted. Well, although that vote passed the House, it failed in the Senate, and we know the surge did take place and the surge has paid off. Civilian casualties in Iraq are down 20 percent; 75 percent in Baghdad. IED attacks are down by 50 percent, and we've nearly doubled the number of weapon caches that have been discovered this year from last year. Lots of good progress has been made.

And I don't blame the folks who are against Iraq for pushing the bill back in January that they did. I believe that there's plenty of room for honest disagreement on this war. But at the same time, here we are now and we need to continue funding for that war. There is a \$50 billion bridge fund. The President actually has asked Congress for \$196 billion, but Congress has indicated \$50 billion is all that we're willing to go at this point. But then there are some stipulations, some micro-management of the war.

I hope that we can have this bill on the floor of the House and have an honest debate on it and keep the spirit of agreeing to disagree agreeably.

IRAN AND THE ENERGY BILL

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, after all the fabrications and all the incompetence associated with Iraq, not to mention the human rights abuses in Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib, you wouldn't think that America could lose any more credibility, but now we understand the President was warned well in advance that there was new information on Iran's nuclear program; yet he continued with his bellicose rhetoric, even raising the specter of World War III.

Well, now we know. There is absolutely no excuse for going to war with Iran. But the fact is that if the President is still concerned about Iran, which he very much should be, he should read the rest of the National Intelligence Estimate which makes it clear that Iran is going to acquire even more wealth and, thus, power because of our dependency on oil.

So the best thing that the President can do if he's concerned about Iran is to sign the energy bill that we are considering today. We cannot continue our dependence upon foreign oil, and the first way to start moving in a new and more secure direction, is to sign the Energy Independence bill that will go to his desk very shortly.

TIME FOR A CHANGE OF COURSE IN IRAQ

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, while our Nation and our military are

paying a huge price for the continuing war in Iraq, the Iraqi Government itself refuses to take any steps needed to bring about political reconciliation. It has now been more than 320 days since the surge began. During that time, more than 860 American troops have been killed and we continue to spend more than \$10 billion in Iraq every month; yet the Iraqi Government still refuses to live up to the promises it made to President Bush when the surge began.

The government promised that the Iraqi Parliament would pass a national oil and gas bill. It hasn't.

The Iraqi Government also promised the President that its parliament would pass a de-Baathification law. It hasn't.

The government also promised to hold provincial elections. Once again, they have failed to follow through.

Madam Speaker, how much longer is President Bush going to sacrifice both our military and our Treasury for an Iraqi Government that refuses to make the difficult decisions that could possibly produce real stability in Iraq? It's time for a change of course in Iraq.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3120

Mr. PUTNAM. I ask unanimous consent, Madam Speaker, that my name be removed as a cosponsor from H.R. 3120.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 1585, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1585) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. HUNTER

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Hunter moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 1585 be instructed to agree to the following provisions:

(1) The provision contained in section 1536(b) of the Senate amendment, relating to